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The Prayerless Life Is A Powerless Life

Wyatt Sawyer

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THE PRAYERLESS-LIFE IS A POWER-LESS LIFE

INT: * Luke 6:1-12. **Never any question about Christ's belief and practice of Prayer to God.**

QUESTION: What do YOU believe about prayer?

QUESTION: How close is Your faith in prayer to the Faith in Prayer Jesus had?

1. WANT TO TAKE A LITTLE SELF-TEST TO FIND OUT?

1. Do you REALLY believe in prayer?/
2. How OFTEN do you pray? (This morn????
(Weekly? Daily? Hourly? Regularly?....)
3. Do YOU believe this is really ENOUGH?
4. Does the Lord believe this enough? Teach??
5. Do you believe prayer can CHANGE things?
6. Do you always pray in FAITH? Jas. 1:5-6.
(Mean? Absolutely confident that God WILL HEAR your prayer and answer as He sees BEST? I Peter 3:12.)
7. HAS and DOES prayer make a difference in your Christian life daily?
Comment: If it DOES, then you believe in prayer. If not, YOU DO NOT!!! Deceived!

II. MAJOR PREMISE: The prayerless life is a powerless life!!!! Proofs needed!!!

I Sam.A. HANNAH prayed for God's help. A son. No son
1:10. before prayer. Samuel came as result of Prayer

II K. B. KING HEZEKIAH. Sick unto death. Prayed.
20:6. Dying before prayer. 15 more yrs. after.

C. JONAH prayed in belly of great fish. Doomed
before prayer. Freed after. Jonah 2:1, 9.

D. ZACHARIAS & ELIZABETH prayed for a son. No
son before prayer. John Bap. after. Lk. 1:13.

E. CORNELIUS prayed to be right. Acts 10:1-4.*

III. WHAT IS PRAYER?

A. Phillips Brooks: "Prayer, in its simplest def. is merely a wish turned upward."

B. BUNYAN: "Prayer is a sincere, sensible, affectionate pouring out of the soul to God, through Christ, in the strength and assurance of the Spirit, for such things as God has promised."

✓ Question: But, about the POWER of prayer???

- C. DR. ALEXIS CARREL: "Prayer is a force as real as terrestrial gravity. (Drop something!!!!)"
✓ As a physician, I have seen men, after all other therapy had failed, lifted out of disease and melancholy by the serene effort of prayer./ Only in prayer do we achieve the complete and harmonious assembly of body, mind, and soul which gives the frail human spirit its unshakeable strength!!!" There is POWER in prayer!!!

III. JESUS TEACHES US MUCH ABOUT PRAYER.

1. Defined it: A little talk with the Father.
Matthew 6:9-13* ALL PRAYERS TO THE FATHER!!!
 66 words.
2. Pray forgiving all. Matt. 6:14-15. How many present STILL IN SIN because failed to forgive some other? ONLY ONE WAY: Forgive!!!
3. Pray from an obedient heart:
- a. Believing: Mark 16:15-16. Matt. 21:22.
 - b. Penitent:: Lk. 13:3. Hardened, impenitent heart reach God???? Matt. 5:3 & 8.
 - c. Prayer preceded by Confession.
Matt. 10:32. Way to get an audience.
 - d. Obedience in baptism imperative.
I John 5:3. Acts 22:16. Pray in sins??!!!
- ✓ 4. Pray in the Name of Jesus. Not: "in Thy name."
* John 16:22-24. Power in a name!!!!!!!

Ill. So. soldier-boy wounded in Civil war. Died soon. Wrote note home before he died. "Dear Father..I was hit badly today. I will die before night. CHARLIE is my friend. He is staying with me on the field..... even at the risk of his life. Because of him, death isn't going to be so bad....If he ever needs anything please help him like he helped me. Give him anything he asks for MY sake. Signed: WILL GRAY."

War ended. CHARLIE passed the GRAY home on the way back. Needed food and few dollars to get home. Knocked on plantation door. Servant tried to turn him away---another ragged-begging-straggler. Note sent inside. Father invited him in. Gave all he requested. Why?? Power in a name! The name WILL GRAY was in his son's own handwriting!!!!

OUR PLEA: Obey the gospel IN CHRIST'S NAME. Forgiven. Rededicate life IN JESUS' NAME. All blessing. Identify in Jesus' name. His request.

The Prayerless Life Is a Powerless Life

895.

1.

Int. 1. Get acquainted:

a. How many of you consider yourself honest? (Eyes closed - Hands up.)

b. (Eyes closed): How many prayed once yesterday? Twice? 3 times? 4? 5? 6? 7? More than 7? Why?
(Class gives reasons.)

2. Read Luke 6:1-12. You ever prayed all night?
Question: Why did Jesus pray all night?

a. Deeply upset?! Cool off!
b. " Disturbed?! Regain balance.

c. angry?! disgusted?! Bitter?! Human!

d. Tempted to be too harsh?

e. Tempted to do something rash? needed strength!

f. other???

3. Ecc. 12:1. Mean?

a. How would this relate to prayer?

b. Ill. Dordena Calhoun. Mike Calhoun. 19 yrs. old. Why? ans?
(WHAT HAPPENED?)

c. Give details. Why? (accident.)
(HOW IT HAPPENED) accident.

d. How prayer help abilene case.
(1. mentally accept reality.
(2. Emotionally regain balance.

3. Physically regain her
balance. not eating, sleeping (2).
not normal.
4. Spiritually accept this as God's
will! Willing to LET Mike
die by accident. Matt. 10: 28-
30.

Question: How much power
is there in prayer??

all one needs!

1 Cor. 10: 13.

Lk a 18: 1-8.